

AMERICA'S FUTURE

"Some people plan, others are planned upon. Some governments plan, others are planned upon.

"The American future is being stolen, dribbled and bumbled away by a government that does not plan for the long range, does not know how to plan, is afraid to talk about the need for long-range planning, and is therefore outplanned at every step by major corporations who are staking out pieces of the future for themselves, as well as by foreign nations who are doing the same on a global scale.

"Failure to look at America's current economic and political crisis in terms of the next 25-50 years is costing us unmeasurable billions of dollars in lost economic and social opportunities and is leading us toward technological and military policies that threaten the survival of the entire planet.

"The U.S., in order to avoid bloodshed over the next few decades, must begin now to develop very-long-range strategies--and must invent wholly new forms of planning that involve not merely a handful of technocratic experts, but millions of ordinary citizens. We must become an anticipatory democracy....

"...Anticipatory democracy is the only kind of democracy possible in a period of high-speed social, technological and political change. Failure to anticipate will lead to tragedy in America. By the same token, long-

range thinking that is unconnected to the ideas, energy and imagination of our whole population, long-range thinking that is merely top-down, and not equally bottom-up, could also produce the end of democracy. It is only by combining long-range strategies for tomorrow with the involvement of millions in formulating goals that we can assure ourselves that there will be an America 2000."--Alvin Toffler, author of "Future Shock," in testimony before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Environmental Pollution, Dec. 15, 1975.